

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please accept amended Claims 1, 18 and 20 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating one or more computer-executable procedures, comprising the steps of:

recording at least one trace of at least one instance of a procedure, wherein the at least one trace comprises a plurality of steps;

simultaneously performing an alignment and generalization of the plurality of steps, wherein the alignment identifies and aligns steps that are equivalent as once generalized; and

generating the one or more computer-executable procedures consistent with the alignment and generalization.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein simultaneously performing an alignment and generalization of the at least one trace further comprises the steps of:

computing all possible alignments and generalizations of the at least one trace; and

selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes an alignment-generalization functional.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes the alignment-generalization functional comprises selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes an alignment functional and a generalization functional.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes the alignment functional and the generalization functional comprises selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes the alignment functional equal to a sum of steps correctly predicted by a procedure model.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes the alignment functional and the generalization functional comprises selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes the generalization functional that is equal to a sum of steps correctly generalized by a procedure model.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes the alignment-generalization functional comprises selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes a monotonically increasing function of an alignment functional and a generalization functional.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and generalizations that maximizes a monotonically increasing function of the alignment functional and the generalization functional comprises selecting the alignment and the generalization from the all possible alignments and

generalizations that maximizes a linearly increasing function of the alignment functional and the generalization functional.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein simultaneously performing an alignment and generalization of the at least one trace further comprises selecting an alignment and generalization by maximizing an alignment-generalization functional using an optimization technique.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein selecting an alignment and generalization by maximizing an alignment-generalization functional using an optimization technique comprises selecting an alignment by maximizing the alignment-generalization functional using an iterative optimization technique.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein selecting an alignment by maximizing the alignment-generalization functional using an iterative optimization technique comprises selecting an alignment by maximizing the alignment-generalization functional using a gradient-descent technique.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein simultaneously performing an alignment and generalization of the at least one trace further comprises the steps of:

- computing an initial alignment and generalization of the at least one trace;
- generating a procedure model of the initial alignment; and
- computing a best alignment and generalization of the procedure model.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of:

repeating the steps of determining the initial alignment, generating the procedure model, and determining the best alignment until a local optimum is detected.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein generating a procedure model of the initial alignment comprises generating a Hidden Markov Model of the initial alignment.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein generating a Hidden Markov Model of the initial alignment comprises generating an Input/Output Hidden Markov Model of the initial alignment.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein simultaneously performing an alignment and generalization of the at least one trace further comprises the steps of:

determining an initial alignment and generalization of the at least one trace;

generating a transition model and an action model of the initial alignment and generalization; and

determining a best alignment of the transition model and the action model.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein further comprising the step of:

repeating the steps of determining the initial alignment, generating the transition model and the action model, and determining the best alignment until a convergence is detected.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein generating a transition model and an action

model of the initial alignment and generalization comprises generating a transition model for at least one node and an action model for the at least one node.

18. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon for execution by a processor to perform a method for generating one or more computer-executable procedures, comprising the steps of:

recording at least one trace of at least one instance of a procedure, wherein the at least one trace comprises a plurality of steps;

simultaneously performing an alignment and generalization of the plurality of steps, wherein the alignment identifies and aligns steps that are equivalent as once generalized; and

generating the one or more computer-executable procedures consistent with the alignment and generalization.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method for generating one or more computer-executable procedures, comprising the steps of:

recording a state of a computer system;

recording at least one trace of user actions that change the state of the computer system;

performing an alignment of a plurality of user actions of the at least one trace to at least a second trace to determine a plurality of aligned user actions, wherein the alignment identifies and aligns steps that are equivalent as once generalized;

performing a generalization of the plurality of aligned user actions to determine a

plurality of generalized and aligned user actions;

selecting a generalized and aligned user action using an alignment-generalization functional to represent a respective user action of the at least one trace; and

generating the one or more computer-executable procedures executable by the computer system consistent with a selected generalized and aligned user action.